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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-17 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 10 and 13 were amended. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. Allowed Claims

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed Claims 5-9. Applicants, through their attorney, express appreciation to the Examiner for this action.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has rejected remaining Claims 1-4 and 10-17 only under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as being directed toward non-statutory subject matter. Applicants, through their attorney, further express appreciation to the Examiner for his very courteous and helpful comments regarding this rejection in the Final Office Action. Applicants also thank the Examiner for granting an interview to Applicants' attorney, on June 7, 2007, to discuss the rejection.

Applicants have now amended independent Claims 1, 10 and 13, and consider that such amendments overcome the rejection of Claims 1-4 and 10-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: <u>June 13, 2007</u>

Respectfully submitted,

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